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| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. |
|-----------------|-------------|----------------------|---------------------|
| 09/615,812 | 07/13/00 | RANEY | C 25520-B |

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| <input type="checkbox"/> EXAMINER | |
| DEXTER, C | |

| | |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> ART UNIT | <input type="checkbox"/> PAPER NUMBER |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------------|

3724
DATE MAILED: 06/19/01 *b*

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Office Action Summary

| | |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Application No. 09/615,812 | Applicant(s) Raney et al. |
| Examiner Clark F. Dexter | Art Unit 3724 |

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136 (a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on Apr 9, 2001.

2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.

3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11; 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) Claim(s) 34, 35, 38, 40, and 41 is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above, claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6) Claim(s) 34, 35, 38, 40, and 41 is/are rejected.

7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8) Claims _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are objected to by the Examiner.

11) The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) approved b) disapproved.

12) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

13) Acknowledgement is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d).

a) All b) Some* c) None of:

1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

*See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

14) Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e).

Attachment(s)

15) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 18) Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____

16) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 19) Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)

17) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s). _____ 20) Other: _____

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DETAILED ACTION

Election/Restriction

1. Applicant's election without traverse of Group I (claims 34, 35, 38, 41 and 42) in the response filed April 9, 2001 (paper no. 5) is acknowledged. Claims 36, 37, 39, 40 and 43, which are drawn to nonelected inventions, have been canceled by applicant.

Drawings

2. The drawings are objected to because numeral 78 (described on page 6, line 28) is not shown, and it seems that ~~-78-~~ should be added to Figure 6. Appropriate correction is required.

Title

3. The title of the invention is not accurate, and should be amended to clearly indicate the invention to which the claims are directed, specifically a method only.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

4. Claims 34, 35, 38, 41 and 42 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

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In claim 34^X, line 5, the phrase "of at least certain of such segments" is vague and it seems that --ones-- should be inserted after "certain" or the like.

In claim 35^X, line 1, "the step of die cutting" is vague and indefinite since it is not clear as to how it's related to the processing step.

In claim 38^X, line 3, "an axial feeding direction" is vague and indefinite, particularly since it is not clear as to what "axial" refers.

In claim 42^X, line 2, "said ... adjustment" lacks positive antecedent basis, and it seems that it should be changed to --adjusting-- or the like.

Prior Art

5. Further consideration of the claimed invention with respect to the prior art will be given upon clarification of the claimed invention.

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Clark Dexter whose telephone number is (703) 308-1404.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Mr. Rinaldi Rada, can be reached at (703)308-2187.

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Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703)308-1148. The fax numbers for this group are: formal papers - (703)305-3579; informal/draft papers - (703)305-9835.



Clark F. Dexter
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 3724

cf
June 18, 2001